

ATTACHMENT III
CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, INELIGIBILITY,
AND VOLUNTARY EXCLUSION – LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

OVERVIEW

In accordance with 45CFR Part 76, State contractors who receive federal funds through the Title XXI State Children's Health Insurance Program (In California, the Healthy Families Program, Access for Infants and Mothers Program, and County Children's Health Insurance Program) must certify at the time of submitting a model contract proposal, that they are not debarred or otherwise excluded by the Federal government from receiving federal funding. Under this federal rule, entities who contract with the State and who are being considered for federal funding are considered to be "lower tier participants" by the federal government. Subcontractors who will receive federal funding, through the contract are also considered to be "lower tier participants".

After reading the instructions on the next page, the person authorized to submit the model contract and proposal must sign the certification and include it in the proposal package by the due date in the model contract and proposal solicitation letter. Proposals not containing the certification will not be considered for an award.

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Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this certification as part of this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant, is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances, including but not limited to suspension, debarment, or exclusion from participation in any federally-funded health care program following its previous certification.
4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

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- (1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submitting this proposal and signing below, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency, or is excluded as the result of state or federal action from participation in any federally-funded health care program.
- (2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

Signature

Date

Printed Name

Name of Prospective Contractor